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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I appreciate the Justice Department's attempts at coming to a speedy conclusion to the Microsoft anti-trust dispute.

However, I do not believe the proposed settlement is a sufficient remedy. In fact, in many ways I feel the "settlement" amounts to capitulation on the part of the Justice Department.

The fundamental problem with Microsoft's \*illegally created\* monopoly and its continuing existence is the amount to which it is limiting competition in the computer industry. Companies like Apple, RedHat and Be have had an incredibly high barrier to entry simply in virtue of Microsoft's "ownership" of the entire desktop market.

While I applaud Microsoft's success in building a very successful business, I do not appreciate their strong-arm tactics which have made it near impossible for competitors to fight on an equal playing field. I want as much choice in free enterprise as our country can create and encourage.

Microsoft's contracts which preclude any modification of the boot loader, for example, inherently makes it impossible for any other operating system vendor to compete side-by-side with Microsoft.

Furthermore, the proposal in this settlement whereby Microsoft will "donate" hardware and software to the country's poorest schools is, at best, a tap on the wrist and at worst it actually \*extends\* Microsoft's monopolistic practice into yet another marketplace where Microsoft does not yet have dominance.

Please reconsider your settlement. You are not doing us consumers and software developers any favors by failing to reprimand Microsoft for its illegal practices.

Thank you.